

country. We fully realize that the people, confident of the future of this Dominion, do not fear any reasonable expenditure of money wisely made, which may tend to the development of our country and to the greater prosperity of its inhabitants. We also propose to put an end to the scandalous waste and extravagance which are incident to the present administration of Government Railways, believing, as we do, that their honest management under a Commission would make these railways at least self-sustaining, and would afford better accommodation to commerce, and more equitable conditions in every respect than now exist. Let me also say that I have given much thought to the conditions in British Columbia which in your opinion call for special attention in considering the Financial Relations between the Dominion and that Province. You claim not only that these conditions are exceptional and peculiar to the situation and physical character of your Province, but also that they are permanent in their nature. In my opinion they are such as to demand immediate inquiry and investigation, to the end that any injustice clearly established may be immediately relieved.

"R. L. BORDEN."

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## A REVIEW OF THE POLITICAL ISSUES

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The following pages have been prepared at the request of the Liberal-Conservative Executive of British Columbia. An effort has been made, how successful my readers must be the judge, to place the issues in this election fairly before the public. Apart altogether from the element existing in every party which desires to see the government to which it is opposed ousted in order to make room for friends, there is in Canada, and especially in British Columbia, a large and growing element honestly and conscientiously opposed to the present government owing to methods which have been pursued since coming to power in 1896, and to a violation of pledges upon which the Liberals secured office. There can be no question about it in the mind of any person versed in Canadian affairs that the general tone of politics has lowered, that corruption and political immorality, though perhaps not greater in individual cases, has been systematized and enlarged to a degree that never existed before in Canada—has in other words, come nearer the Tammany standard of the United States

—and that the money power in influencing the legislation and administration of the Dominion has increased in an immeasurable degree.

### A HIGHER STANDARD OF POLITICS.

This might not have been a matter for so much comment had the Liberals not gone into power expressly on the understanding that abuses and evils which they themselves condemned would be remedied. This is one of the principal issues of the campaign—a higher standard of political morality. Our leader, Mr. Borden stands for that. He not only stands for it as a theory but has demonstrated it in his own personality, his political record and his purpose in life. We claim on this issue alone that the Liberal government has forfeited its right to the confidence of the people and should be turned out.

If it should ensue that a Liberal-Conservative government will be equally corrupt and untrue to promises, then it is the duty of the electors to turn it out, too, at the next opportunity. The punishment